

bulk of Americans to have the benefit of this Tax Code. The Democratic plan gives us that advantage.

Mr. Speaker, the Republican plan speaks to the wealthiest 5 percent of American citizens who have benefited from America's greatness. The Democratic plan provides for children in America to receive that higher education for families in America who work every day to receive the support that they need.

Support the Democratic tax plan. Let us work with our colleagues to make sure that our plan reaches those Americans who need it most.

JUST LOOK AT THE NUMBERS

(Mr. ENSIGN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ENSIGN. Mr. Speaker, we have heard a lot of talk about the numbers of the tax bill and for the rich, for the poor. Let us just look at a few of those numbers right now.

The \$500-per-child tax credit over the 10 years takes up \$150 billion of the \$250 billion in tax cuts. The education tax credits take up \$50 billion of that 250 billion. Add those together, that is 200 billion of the \$250 billion, roughly 80 percent just in those two tax cuts.

Mr. Speaker, if we look at the bills, and I do not say to the American people to trust any politician up here, look at the bill, pull it up on the Internet, and people will see that no one can receive 80 percent of the tax cuts that makes over \$125,000 a year as a family, \$75,000 a year as an individual.

Mr. Speaker, 75 percent of this tax cut goes to people making less than \$75,000 a year. Do not take my word for it. My colleagues should look it up for themselves.

GOP PLAN REWARDS THE RICH WHILE DEMOCRAT ALTERNATIVE HELPS WORKING FAMILIES

(Mr. PALLONE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I follow up on my colleague from the other side of the aisle and say do, in fact, look at the details and my colleagues will find that the GOP tax plan rewards the rich and the Democratic alternative helps working families.

Let us look at the capital gains tax. Basically the GOP plan would essentially cut the capital gains tax across the board. It would say that for the sale of stocks, bonds or other assets the rate would drop to 20 percent, where it is now at 28 percent. What the Democrats are saying is why benefit Wall Street? Why benefit wealthy people who have these large portfolios of bonds and stocks? Let us help the homeowner.

The capital gains tax cut is a good idea, but it should be targeted for

homeowners because that is where most middle-class working people have to pay a capital gains tax cut. Reduce it for the person selling the home, not the person with the large stock portfolio.

And the same with the estate tax break. Right now only 1.5 percent of families currently pay any estate tax, but the Republicans are saying that they want to increase the amount up to a million dollars. That is for the rich, not for the working person.

WHY REPUBLICANS SUPPORT A \$500-PER-CHILD TAX CREDIT

(Mr. KINGSTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, more confusion on the Democrat side of the aisle; it is no wonder that their President is reaching over to Republicans to try to work on a responsible tax bill.

As my colleagues know, the interesting thing is in this tax debate we need to talk about tax responsibility and social responsibility. We need in America a tax system that is fair and honest, a Tax Code that is clear, one that encourages and rewards work ethics. And that is why Republicans are supporting a \$500-per-child tax credit for middle-class working families.

My wife called me yesterday about this gentleman in our district who is on welfare. He is 30 years old, and he has 16 kids at 30, and his quote was: The Lord said be fruitful and multiply.

Now I am a father of four. I think the Lord speaks a little bit more broadly than that, such as "You need to be paying for your kids." But under the Democrat proposal, if one does not pay taxes, they will still be able to get the \$500-per-child tax credit that middle-class working families who pay taxes are eligible to get. Huge difference.

HOW REPUBLICANS MISS THE MARK OF BEING FAIR TO ALL AMERICANS

(Mrs. CLAYTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. CLAYTON. Mr. Speaker, I first want to acknowledge that those of us who knew Bill Emerson also knew how to debate passionately for our views on both sides and at least held to our views. I differ from Bill Emerson, and I also respect him. I hope we can do the same thing as we talk about this tax bill.

The chairman's mark fails to do just what the last speaker said it does do: Be fair. It is not fair. It fails to do that. The Democratic plan certainly is a better alternative in being fair to all Americans.

Take two examples. My colleagues mentioned the \$500 deduction that both the gentleman from Texas [Mr. ARCHER] has as well as the Democrats have. The difference is they would deny

that opportunity for struggling working people, but they would not even include the earned income tax credit in terms of the calculation. That is one example.

The other example is that under the Archer mark there is 600 dollars' worth of relief that would be given, where the Democrat would give \$1,100.

These are just a few examples how they miss the mark of being fair to all Americans. Let us debate this issue, but let us debate it objectively.

RESTRICT TAX CUTS TO PEOPLE WHO ARE ACTUALLY PAYING TAXES

(Mr. NEUMANN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. NEUMANN. Mr. Speaker, as this debate on reducing taxes on working families in America unfolds, I find it somewhat amazing what is going on up there. One of the goofiest criticisms that I have heard is that people that are paying no taxes in this country do not get a tax cut. Well, out where I come from, people are having a hard time understanding how they can cut taxes if they are not paying any taxes in the first place.

Mr. Speaker, some may be feeling a bit confused about this statement, and I got to confess I was confused when I first heard it. Now presumably the liberal Democrats who have been voicing this criticism have been saying this with a straight face. But it is hard to know when one is only reading such ridiculous accounts in the newspapers, but apparently it is true. There are actually some liberal Democrats who are outraged that they will not be getting a tax cut, even though they are not paying any taxes in the first place.

I have to tell my colleagues, back in my district, back in Wisconsin, a lot of folks are asking, "How could you possibly cut taxes if you're not paying any taxes to start with? Doesn't that turn the tax cut into a social welfare program?" I have to say that I think it is very important that we do restrict the tax cuts to people who are actually paying taxes.

CONGRESS IS NOT DOING ITS JOB

(Mr. GEJDENSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GEJDENSON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to just have a slight correction to my colleague in that these people do pay taxes, and they pay a lot of taxes because they are at the bottom and their FICA taxes eat up a big portion of their earnings. The basic question is, what is the job of Congress?

Under the Republican proposal, a family that makes \$17,000 a year will lose a thousand dollars, and a billionaire corporation will pay lower taxes. It seems to me there can be arguments for lowering everybody's taxes, but a Congress that in the same product

takes away a thousand dollars from a struggling family trying to eke out a living on less money than most people in this room spend on their vacations a year is a Congress that is not doing its job.

The choices for people are clear, that at the bottom of the economic ladder in this country people still have to make a decision about clothing, feeding and providing health care for their children. We are debating whether we are going to provide health care to half the children out there without health care or none of them. We need to take care of those responsibilities first.

WHO IS ON MY SIDE?

(Ms. DELAURO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, the gentleman who spoke about providing tax relief to people who do not pay taxes is absolutely off the mark. The fact of the matter is that people are paying payroll taxes and the child credit applies to those FICA or payroll taxes.

Let us get the story straight.

Republicans have proposed a tax cut proposal; Democrats have proposed a tax cut proposal. We are for tax cuts. The issue is who benefits from the Democratic program or the Republican program? I submit to my colleagues that the Republican bill is nothing more than a windfall for the wealthiest Americans, and a Democratic alternative offers real tax relief to middle-class families. The Democratic tax package puts money straight into the pockets of average working middle-class families. The majority of the benefits from the Democratic bill go to families making less than \$100,000 a year in this country. The Republicans want to provide the richest corporations in this Nation and in the world with a reduction in their tax obligation and at the same time deny to working families the opportunity to get a child care tax credit because both men and women are in the workplace.

Understand the debate and the argument. It is an important one.

THE BUDGET AGREEMENT IS A GOOD START

(Ms. GRANGER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, when I ask people back home, far away from the political battles of Washington, what our budget priorities should be, I often get responses like this: Well, I hear Medicare is going broke, so I guess we should do something to save it, and I think the Government should let me keep more of my money, so I definitely think that average folks like me should get a tax cut.

Mr. Speaker, I am happy to report that the budget agreement will be good

news to people back home, people like that. This budget agreement takes an important step towards saving Medicare, and it contains permanent tax relief for average people. Congress is finally acting and can act in a bipartisan way to enact necessary Medicare reforms so that seniors are protected and Medicare is saved, and Congress is also acting in a bipartisan way to let American families keep more of their own money, not our money.

This budget agreement reflects the priorities of average Americans who want to retire with health care security and want to have a little more freedom to enjoy the fruits of their labor. I am going to vote for it. I think it is a good start.

JUNETEENTH INDEPENDENCE DAY

(Mr. LAMPSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, today in the Ninth Congressional District in my State of Texas, we celebrate Juneteenth Independence Day.

President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation in 1863 to abolish slavery, but it was not until June 19, 1865, 132 years ago today, that U.S. Gen. Gordon Granger rode into Galveston, TX in my district to announce that the State's 200,000 slaves were free.

Although this holiday originated in Texas, it is being celebrated throughout our Nation today. I encourage all Americans to join with me and with the citizens of Texas, not only in celebration, but to take a moment to reflect on the meaning of Juneteenth and remember those African-Americans who have been slaves and who suffered and struggled to move from slavery to freedom.

And finally, Mr. Speaker, quoting Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.: "We must use time creatively in the knowledge that the time is always ripe to do right."

SUPPORT THE B-2

(Mr. HUNTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, today we are going to have a vote on the B-2 amendment. That is a question of whether or not we are going to have this tremendous aircraft in our inventory in numbers in excess of 20.

As my colleagues know, during Vietnam we lost about 2,300 fixed-wing aircraft to SAM missiles. Those were the surface-to-air missiles that the Russians were proliferating to their friends around the world and are still proliferating to their friends. A SAM missile took down Scot O'Grady a few months ago in Bosnia when he was flying his high-performance F-16 aircraft.

If we turn down the B-2 today, it is going to be the first time the American people have decided to send their

young pilots out in aircraft that are not the very, very best that this Nation can provide. Support the B-2. Our troops need it.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CALVERT). The question is on the motion to adjourn offered by the gentleman from New York [Mr. FORBES].

The question was taken.

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Evidently a quorum is not present.

The Sergeant at Arms will notify absent Members.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 27, nays 389, not voting 18, as follows:

[Roll No. 211]

YEAS—27

| | | |
|------------|---------------|------------|
| Ackerman | Hastings (FL) | Moran (VA) |
| Brown (CA) | Hinchey | Oberstar |
| Condit | John | Obey |
| Conyers | King (NY) | Pastor |
| Dingell | LaFalce | Riley |
| Engel | McCarthy (NY) | Stark |
| Farr | McNulty | Towns |
| Filner | Millender- | Waxman |
| Forbes | McDonald | |
| Fowler | Mink | |

NAYS—389

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|--------------|-------------|---------------|
| Abercrombie | Camp | Dreier |
| Aderholt | Campbell | Duncan |
| Allen | Canady | Dunn |
| Andrews | Cannon | Edwards |
| Archer | Capps | Ehlers |
| Armey | Cardin | Ehrlich |
| Bachus | Carson | Emerson |
| Baesler | Castle | English |
| Baker | Chabot | Ensign |
| Baldacci | Chambliss | Eshoo |
| Ballenger | Chenoweth | Etheridge |
| Barcia | Christensen | Evans |
| Barr | Clay | Everett |
| Barrett (NE) | Clayton | Ewing |
| Barrett (WI) | Clement | Fawell |
| Bartlett | Clyburn | Fazio |
| Barton | Coble | Foglietta |
| Bass | Coburn | Foley |
| Bateman | Collins | Ford |
| Becerra | Combest | Fox |
| Bentsen | Cook | Frank (MA) |
| Bereuter | Cooksey | Franks (NJ) |
| Berman | Costello | Frelinghuysen |
| Berry | Cox | Frost |
| Bilbray | Coyne | Furse |
| Bilirakis | Cramer | Galleghy |
| Bishop | Crane | Ganske |
| Blagojevich | Crapo | Gejdensen |
| Bliley | Cubin | Gekas |
| Blumenauer | Cummings | Gibbons |
| Blunt | Cunningham | Gilchrest |
| Boehlert | Danner | Gillmor |
| Boehner | Davis (FL) | Gilman |
| Bonilla | Davis (IL) | Gonzalez |
| Bonior | Davis (VA) | Goode |
| Bono | Deal | Goodlatte |
| Borski | DeFazio | Gordon |
| Boswell | Delahunt | Goss |
| Boucher | DeLauro | Graham |
| Boyd | DeLay | Granger |
| Brady | Dellums | Green |
| Brown (FL) | Deusch | Greenwood |
| Brown (OH) | Diaz-Balart | Gutierrez |
| Bryant | Dickey | Gutknecht |
| Bunning | Dicks | Hall (OH) |
| Burr | Dixon | Hall (TX) |
| Burton | Doggett | Hamilton |
| Buyer | Dooley | Hansen |
| Callahan | Doolittle | Harman |
| Calvert | Doyle | Hastert |